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PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 051626-5010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Norikazu SAKAI	)	Confirmation No.: 3249
	)	
Application No.: 10/786,538	)	Group Art Unit: 2625
	)	
Filed: February 26, 2004	)	Examiner: Houshand Safaipour
	)	
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS, IMAGE)	)	Mail Stop AF
FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE )	)	
READING METHOD )	)	

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(c) but on or before the payment of the issue fee for the above-identified application. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), a fee of \$180.00, as specified by § 1.17(p) is due for filing this IDS. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this \$180.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application on January 29, 2008, and not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

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A copy of the Japanese Office Action and the listed reference cited therein, are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language document listed:

a. JP2001-268355: In addition to the Japanese Office Action, the relevance of this document can be understood from the attached English-language abstract and the figures therein.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

**EXCEPT** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

By: 

Robert J. Goodell  
Reg. No. 41,040

Dated: March 5, 2008

**CUSTOMER NO. 009629**

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